

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 2/11/2015
SB 77

MARY ANNE GUGGENHEIM, M.D.
100 Stuart Street
Helena, MT 59601
406-443-5006
sweenycrik@gmail.com

*Certified, American Board of Psychiatry
and Neurology, with Special Competence in
Child Neurology*

*Distinguished Clinical Professor
of Pediatrics
U of Colorado School of Medicine*

Certified, American Board of Pediatrics

Re SB 77

2-11-15

My name is Mary Anne Guggenheim, I live in Helena. I am a physician. I have been a member of the Board of Medical Examiners for the past 7 years and am the immediate past president of the board.

First of all, I wish to thank Senator Barrett for carrying this bill. Her experience as a past public member of the medical board has been very helpful.

This bill is fairly long and looks complex. As you will hear from Mr. Marquand, our executive officer, much of the verbiage relates to clearing out old language and modernizing some outdated and unnecessary code. The substantive proposals reduce the type of physician licenses from four to two. We propose a new license type specifically tailored for physicians in residency training. We now have 3 residency programs in Montana, 2 for family practice training and one for internal medicine. In drafting this license we literally sat down with the 3 residency directors* to frame guidelines that were appropriate for their trainees. We have their support for this new license type.

The second major change is to consolidate several cumbersome and somewhat restrictive types of physician licenses into a single, comprehensive physician license for the practice of medicine. We propose doing away with the specific license for the practice of telemedicine, which was codified in 1999. At that time, telemedicine practice was just beginning, was restricted to out of state physicians, and mostly consisted of the diagnostic interpretation of slides or x-rays. In the subsequent 15 years, telemedicine has changed dramatically and currently is part of all types of medical practice. Thus, in the board's opinion, the requirements and obligations for a physician using telemedicine technologies should be the same as for the traditional, face to face type of medical practice.

In the process of working on this bill the board has consulted with our colleagues in hospitals, with the state medical society, and many others. Mr. Marquand will go over the bill with you in an organized way and both of us will do our best to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your time and consideration.

*Dr. Fahrenwald, FP in Billings, Dr. Vasquez, FP in Missoula and Kalispell, and Dr. Fickalora, who directs the IM program at the Billings Clinic.

